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36th Year Of Publication ★ October 20, 1974 ★ 20 Paise

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★

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

Nurses of the Children's Hospital named after I.V. Rusakov.

SISTERS OF MERCY

The duties of the nurse in the Central Children's Hospital in Moscow are diverse and difficult. No matter where she works—in the operation room, in the wards or special treatment rooms—she must possess high professional efficiency, has a calm disposition, be able to overcome fatigue, and endure great physical and moral strain. The nurse who looks after the children must be especially patient and kind for she plays the role of the child's mother while he is staying at the hospital

The intensive theraphy and reanimation department of clinic has all the facilities for saving the child's life in a critical situation.

Nurses are on round-the-clock duty there. Nurse Lyudmil Shchelkanova, for example, keeping vigil at the ten-year-old Slava's bedside. Slava has just undergone surgical operation, and his condition is serious. Difficult patients are always put under her care because surgeons have inplicit trust in her

Lyudmila has every reason to regard Slava as her blood relation.

The difficult operation Slava had to undergo was done quite normally, but then, suddenly, a threat of haemorrhage ap eared. The doctors least expected it in his case. Besides, the boy was operated on for the second time and the last ampoule of blood of the necessary group was transfused into him during the first operation. Slava had the rare, 4th blood group, even sub-group. They began to infuse blood substitute intravenously, but it was necessary to find the blood for transfusion in 20 minutes. As is the usual practice in such cases they rang up the city blood-transfusion station and the ampoules with blood were sent to the clinic immediately. But the direct transfusion would be better, of course. Of all the people who were at the clinic at that critical moment only Lyudmila had the necessary blood-group. A minute later she was lying on the operation table next to Slava's and another nurse switched on the direct blood transfusion apparatus.

Several days passed and the little patient showed all signs of quick recovery:

"Was it your blood they transfused into me?" he once asked Lyudmila.

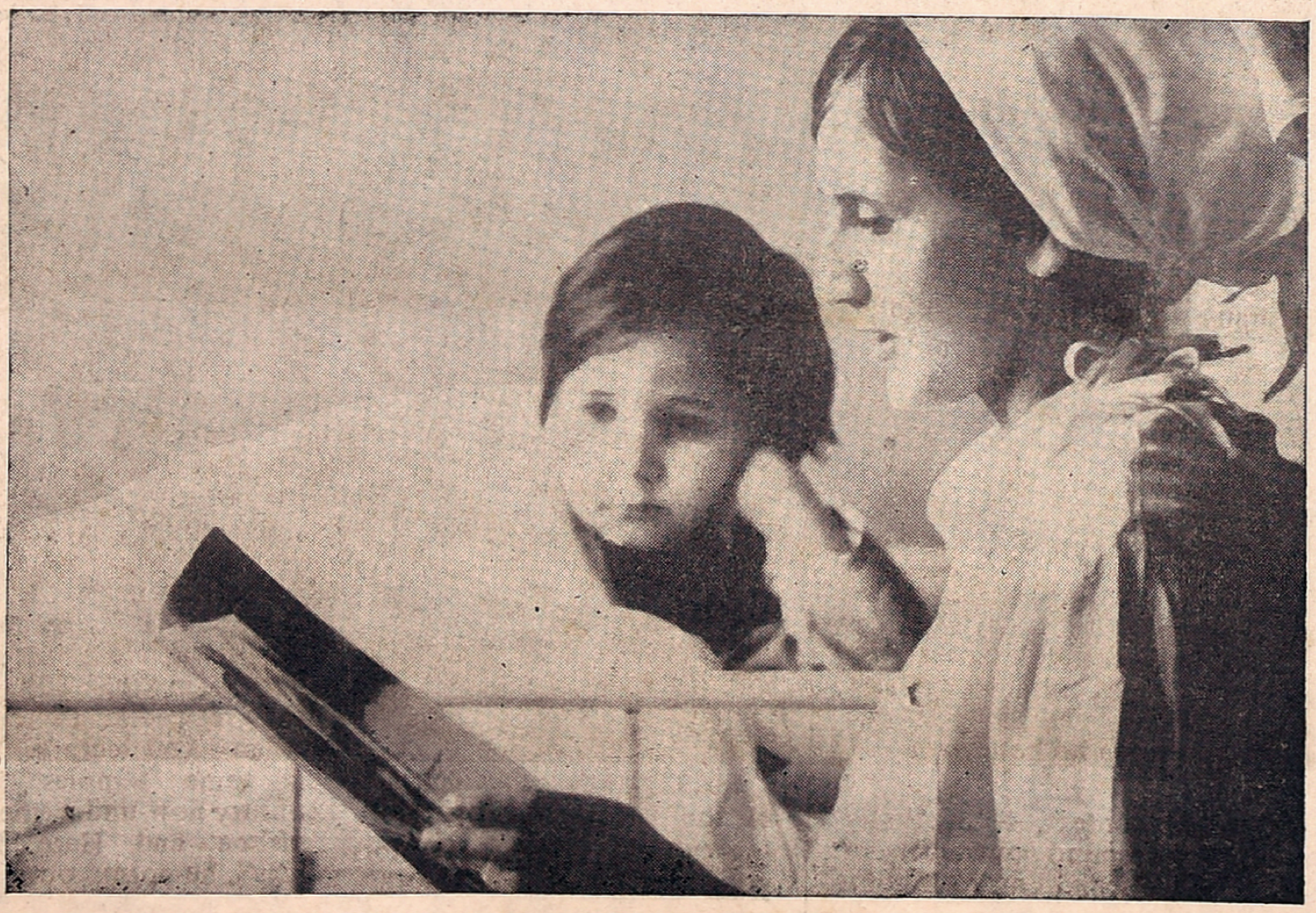
"Yes, dear, it was", Lyuda said with a smile.

"Then you are like a real sister to me now, I shall never forget you",

"Oh, no, you will. And now you must sleep and get well".

There is the supreme award instituted specially for nurses—the Florence Nightingale Medal awarded for selfleness, courage and love for the people once every three year—by the International Red Cross Society. In 1973, five of the 36 nurses from 18 countries who were awarded these medals were from the Soviet Union.

(More Pictures on page 11)



A convalescent child likes to have somebody read a book to him or tell a story.

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FREE INDIA WEEKLY
MOUNT ROAD,
MADRAS-600002.

Regd. No. M. 4181. 20 PAISE Telephone: 85304

36th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Free India

Founder: E. R. GOVINDAN

Vol. XXXVI | Madras, Sunday, Oct. 20, 1974 | No. 4

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Union Cabinet Shuffle

Will It Help Toning Up Administration?

NEWTON'S First Law of Motion says: "Every body continues in its state of rest, or of uniform motion in a right line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed upon it."

The condition of Smt. Indira Gandhi's team of Ministers amply vindicates Newton's First Law. As a rule, the Ministers choose to be in a state of rest—though it may be questionable they are "in a right line"—and they are compelled to change only when some forces are impressed upon them. Dynamism in Ministers is mostly seen in extra-administrative affairs. This week the nation mourns Krishna Menon's passing away: his dynamism in Defence production earned him enemies although it was this exercise in self-reliance which made an abiding contribution towards the country's security.

But a Krishna Menon or a T.T. Krishnamachari or a Mohan Kumaramangalam were exceptions rather than the rule. The state of rest is the motto for an average Minister, and the only force that can make him move seems to be the Prime Minister's displeasure or his devaluation in her eyes.

This week's Cabinet reshuffle has been the seventh that Smt Gandhi has effected in three-and-half years, thereby working out at a half-yearly average. In between these operations—preceded every time by weeks of feverish nervousness for the Ministers—there has been very little evidence of solid, constructive work, of mastery over details and urge or competence for in-depth study of problems, and the grit and the courage to grapple with them.

One may not be wrong in generalising that with every reshuffle, the barometer of the nation's state of health has registered a marked decline: whether the two have any organic links one may not care to establish but there is no gainsaying the fact that none of the Ministerial reshuffles so far made has helped to tone up either the administration or politics at the Centre. The Cabinet reshuffle, in other words, has become a seasonal exercise in irrelevance; and the latest one promises to be no better.

* * *

IN this context, it is equally valid to remind ourselves of Newton's Second Law of Motion

(Contd. on page 10)

Sai Baba Mahasamadhi Day Celebrations

Sri Sai Baba Mahasamadhi Day will be celebrated on Friday the 25th October 1974 between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Sai Nilayam, Shenoynagar, Madras - 30.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Krishnaswami Reddy, Judge, High Court, Tamil-Nadu, has kindly consented to participate in the celebrations. Devotees are requested to attend the celebrations and receive Baba's Prasadam on this Sacred Day.

Sri Sai Baba Mandapam is nearing completion. It is expected that devotees will contribute liberally to the Building Fund.

South Indian Temples Among American Skyscrapers

Spiralling skyscrapers and towering industrial chimneys are common sights in American cities. New York and Pittsburgh are especially famous for these imposing structures.

But by September 1975, these two American cities can also boast of something of the splendour of ancient South Indian architecture. Two temples, one at New York and the other at Pittsburgh, will mark their skyline.

To the 30,000 Hindus in New York and an equally large number at Pittsburgh, the temples will symbolise the fulfillment of a long-cherished desire to have places for devotion and meeting their fellow countrymen.

The temple at New York will be dedicated to Lord Ganesh and the one at Pittsburgh to Lord Venkateswara. The Hindu Temple Society of North America and the Hindu Temple Society of Pittsburgh are building the temples at New York and Pittsburgh respectively.

The total cost of each of these temples is expected to amount between Rs. 25 to 30 lakhs. The Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) at Tirupati is assisting the two societies. For the Lord Ganesh temple, the TTD is contributing Rs. 7.5 lakhs besides providing the idols and the structural materials. The TTD is presenting the main idol of Lord Venkateswara to the Pittsburgh temple along with the other idols connected with this deity.

The idols and the structural materials for these two temples are being readied at Hyderabad where there are many black granite quarries.

Mr. C. Anna Rao, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the TTD, says that sculptors from Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh will be visiting the U.S. to complete the erection work. "Not less than fifty of them will have to go over there in this connection because great skill is required in erecting the temple structure and installing the idols", he says.

The two temples, he adds, will bear the same architecture of South Indian temple Gopurams, Vimanas and Prakaras. "Luckily," the TTD Chairman says, "the site selected at Pittsburgh closely resembles Tirumalai hills—a hill with seven peaks."

As for the Venkateswara idol to be installed at the Pittsburgh temple, Mr. Anna Rao observes, that it will differ slightly from the main idol of Lord Venkateswara at Tirupati. "We have been advised", he adds, "that there should be some difference between the two idols and hence there will be slight variation in the stature and height of the new one."

The temples in the U.S. will be managed by local committees. "But initially we'll have to send priests from here who know the agamas (mode of worship) to conduct the devotional proceedings", Mr. Anna Rao says.

The TTD Chairman has been invited by the two temple societies in the U.S. to participate in the dedication of the temples in September 1975.

He says that these temples will be the forerunners of similar devotional centres to be established in other foreign countries where the Hindu population is sizeable. At present, he adds, there are no temples in the U.S. which bear resemblance to South Indian architecture. "There are some temples in that country now under the Rama-krishna and Hare Krishna cults", he points out.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

Starvation is often necessary in order to keep the body in health, but there is no such thing as prayer-starvation.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Oct. 20 1974.

FOOD FACTS

Union Deputy Agriculture Minister A. P. Shinde has said that the food situation in the country is generally good with large quantities of wheat imports in the offing from both Russia and Western countries.

According to the World Bank and the FAO, these are the food facts for the world:

The world produces about 1.2 billion tons of grains yearly. The four largest producers are the U.S. (239 m. tons), the USSR (200 m. tons), China (168 m. tons) and India (105 m. tons)

Eight million Americans grow 239 m. tons. It takes 364 million Indians to grow their 105 m. tons. In Soviet Union, 77 million persons labour to produce 200 m. tons. In China 514 million peasants harvest 168 m. tons.

In India and China, almost everyone works at producing food—and still these huge Asian nations must import foodgrains.

By 1985, there will be an 85 m. tons annual gap between the food grown and what is needed.

What really disturbed world markets last year was the Soviet Union importation of 200 million tons of grains.

This grain was not primarily to feed people, but to fatten cattle, for Kremlin leaders have pledged to raise more meat for their people.

Each year, the world grain production must increase 3 per cent to feed an additional 40 million people.

In 1973, because of poor crops, grain production dropped by 3 per cent or 40 m. tons below expectations. The gap had to be made up from U.S., Canadian and other reserve stocks.

Our food gap is not so wide as to make us go about the world with a begging bowl. With a little more encouragement our peasants can not only fill up the gap but produce enough for export. Our jawans have proved their mettle on the battle front. Our kisans will certainly prove their capacity on the food front.

Lakshmi Sahasram

A. T. KRISHNAMACARI, B.A, B.L.

WHILE the number of invocatory poems in Sanskrit on Gods is legion, those that extend beyond a hundred verses each are so few that poems of a thousand verses can be counted on one's fingers. As for as we know, there are only three: the Paaduka Sahasram, the Narayaneeyam and the Lakshmi Sahasram These are about 700 years old in the case of the first poem, 400 years old in the case of the second poem and 300 years old in the case of the third poem.

QUINTESSENCE OF RAMAYANAM

The Paaduka Sahasram was composed by that Lion of Poets and Debators, Sri Venkatanatha, commonly known as Vedanta Desika of Thooppul. It is said to have been produced in a single night and is the quintessence of the Ramayana. It deals with the Paaduka (sandals) of Sri Ranganatha, the god of Srirangam who was the idol worshipped by Sri Rama and Sita and bequeathed to us, you and me, through Vibhishana.

QUINTESSENCE OF BHAGAVATAM

The Narayaneeyam was composed by that Prince among Bhaktas Sri Narayana Bhattathiri, commonly referred to merely as Bhattathri of Guruvayoor in Malayalam (Kerala). It is said to have been sung in the presence of God Krishna in the Guruvayur temple and as each verse was recited in the form of a question, the Lord nodded His head in approval. It is the quintessence of the Srimad Bhagavatham and the Lord is reported to have silenced literary critics of grammatical lacunae in it saying that He preferred the Bhakti which it exuded in every verse to the Vibhakti (grammar) quoted by them.

The Lakshmi Sahasram was composed by the most modern, yet classical maestro Sri Venkatadvari of Arasanipalai, commonly known as Venkata Acharya, who proudly describes himself as the Nephew of the Kaanchi Koti Kannikaa Daana Lakshmi Kumara Tata Acharya, the preceptor of Karnataka kings. His more widely known work is the Champukavya of Viswa Guna Aadarsam (a mirror of the qualities of the world) which is the first ever travelogue of India from Cashmere to Cape Comorin.

QUINTESSENCE OF PURANAS

It presents in a single book all references to Goddess Lakshmi in all the eighteen Puranas from the Avatara of Lakshmi during Ksheera Saagara Madaram to Her ultimate wedding with Lord Narayana. The erudite author has composed in almost all the meters known to Sanskrit grammar and always matched the meter with the matter in the verse, thus suggesting we can not only read or sing the song but also dance or act the incident described in the verse. This is no common achievement in the field of poetics. The disparity in the lengths of the (25) chapters is a clear indication of the poet's concern forthe contents rather than the form or formulae which is the chief distinction between poets and poetasters.

THE LONG AND THE SHORT

There are 25 chapters in this book of one thousand eight verses. (So is each of the other two: Paaduka Sahasram and Narayaneeyam). The chapters are called "Stabakas" by the author which by itself is a distinguishing feature. They are of uneven length: The longest is the eighth Soundarya Stabaka of 235 verses. The next is the fourth Kataksha Stabaka of 64 verses. The fourteen yamaka Stabaka is in 61 verses and the twenty second Shitra Stabaka is only 58 verses. The twelfth utsava Stabaka is in 51 verses while the ninth Sringara Stabaka has only 50 verses. The seventeenth Naama Vaibhava Stabaka of 42 verses, the eighteenth Dhaama Vaibhava Stabaka of 40 verses are just longer than the sixth Yatna Stabaka of 39 verses and the twentyfirst Dasavatara Stabaka of 35 verses. The last two Virveda Stabaka of 12 verses and Saranaagati Stabaka of 13 verses constitute the shortest chapters.

QUINTESSENCE OF RAMANIYA

The book opens with a foreword (in verse) and proceeds to describe Lakshmi's Avataara and Her immediate entry as

(Contd. on page 10)

ON THE COVER

Kurpiyanova, who plays the role of Sita in the Ramayana being staged by the Central Children's Theatre of Moscow, now touring India.

The play is one of the most popular of the theatre's productions and has been drawing capacity crowds during the last 14 years. Though conceived as a children's play, it is also popular with adults.

Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi who witnessed the play in Moscow described it as an "outstanding contribution of Soviet cultural and scientific workers to the strengthening of friendship between the two great peoples".

Soviet interest in "Ramayana" began with the translation of the Epic by Prof. Alexei Barannikov of the USSR Academy of Sciences which began before World War II and continued in wartime. He undertook the task with the conviction that its publication would be conducive to the closer cultural contact of the two countries.

Madame Natalia Guseva, another Indologist who came under the spell of this immortal classic, began writing a stage version of the main story as a play for children.

The play begins with an introduction by Poet Valmiki, presented by Honoured Artiste of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Poluparnev, the present Director of the Theatre. The recitations by Valmiki are accompanied by pantomimes, running through the entire play.

Gennady Pechnikov, Merited Actor of the Russian Federation, plays the role of Rama, in which he has tried to combine the realistic traditions of the Russian theatre with the rich imaginative and poetic heritage of the Indian folk theatre. Kurpiyanova plays the role of the gentle and devoted Sita.

The whole scenic pattern is so simple, compact and convincing. In Madras, the artistes will stage the Ramayana in the University Centenary Hall on Oct. 23, 24, 26 under the auspices of the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram.

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Story Of Nuclear Research in India—4

World Scientists Consulted at Important Stages

By R. RAMANNA, Director, BHABHA Atomic Research Centre

Dr. Bhabha quite often used to say that we could justify all the expenditure on atomic energy that was being incurred to the public at large only if we would demonstrate useful electric power generated at low cost. Right from very early days of atomic energy, he had set himself the task of costing nuclear power specially in developing countries. His contributions to the Geneva Conference of 1955 show his absorbing interest in need and cost of nuclear power in developing areas. He had to fight a long battle because his European colleagues were against him on this matter. When it became clear that light water enriched system of the BWR type was already economical in comparison with thermal stations under certain circumstances of distance from coal fields, Dr. Bhabha involved himself with a series of negotiations with US Atomic Energy Commission for the establishment of the Tarapur reactor. The reactor actually started giving power to the Maharashtra and Gujarat grids after his death.

Whatever difficulties the Tarapur reactor has been faced with, which in my view are very exaggerated because the reactor has behaved no better or no worse than other nuclear power stations in the world, it has provided a source of very important power for the Maharashtra-Gujart grid without which industry in the two states would have been in a complete mess. The recent decision to make fuel elements for this reactor from imported enriched uranium (in UF 6 form) is a courageous decision taken in the same spirit as the decisions of Dr. Bhabha.

LINK WITH CANADA

Our close association with Canada led us to the choice of heavy water natural uranium power reactors (Candu type). In this choice, I think we can consider ourselves to be lucky as it has led us to the right system and unit size required for the country under the present conditions of out industry. The Site Selecting Committee for the location of nuclear power reactors (I believe site selection committees for conventional power reactors having recently been set up) which was formed in August 1961 made a series of recommendations, as a result of which Kota and Kalpakkam were chosen as locations for the first two power stations. It was clear even at that time, while Kota would be built under Canadian assistance, Kalpakkam could be made almost entirely from Indian resources. The unit size of 200 MW was naturally dictated from the first Canadian power station at Douglas point. It has now been shown that the unit size of 500 or 1000 MW would make the electricity much cheaper to the extent that it will be competitive with thermal power even at coal pitheads. If however, we have in mind the size of the present grid systems and the capability of our industry, 200 MW would still be of value for some years to come. 500 MW station are in fact being designed by us, but should really come in opeartion after the Narora reactors.

BREEDER REACTORS

It has always been the aim of the Indian atomic energy programme to utilise the large quantities of Thorium that exist in the country. Unfortunately, Thorium cannot be used as a fuel as it will have to be irradiated in a reactor to produce sufficient quantities of U 233 which can then be used as a fuel. The production of U 233 in normal reactors is a very slow process. However, nuclear physics provides a most exciting answer to this in the sense that it is possible to build reactors using a fast neutron spectrum in which more fuel can be produced than is actually burnt. Such reactors are called breeder reactors. In these reactors if thorium is used as a blanket around the core of the reactor, large quantities of U 233 can be produced. There are, however, many problems connected with this type of reactor including the economics of breeding. The other problems referred to are reactor stability, reactor safety and radiation damage. Reactor safety in fast breeder systems is particularly important in view of the fact that sodium is used as the coolant for extracting the power inside the reactor. I would say that in the plans of Dr. Bhabha's programme, the fast breeder reactor was the last big item he had envisaged. A fast breeder test reactor is now under construction at Kalpakkam and is just coming out of the ground. It should be operating by 1971–78 and by the early 80s we will have obtained considerable operating experience on such systems, to be able to design a power breeder reactor to come up in the late 80's. A power breeder reactor will go a long way to help conserve our fuel supplies for nuclear power, since it produces more fuel than it burns. If the experiment succeeds it will have a big impact on fuel economics.

I have in this brief sketch of development of atomic energy not mentioned several other developments which have gone a long way towards making the Indian nuclear programme a self-sufficient one. The chain of Heavy Water Plants which has been set up all over the country will make us independent of imports of heavy water. The Uranium Corporation of India set up in October 67 is responsible for all the mining and processing of the available uranium ore in the country.

NUCLEAR FUEL COMPLEX

The very large Nuclear Fuel Complex at Hyderabad which has been set up entirely by our own scientists and engineers is something the country can be proud of. It makes several types of sophisticated fuel elements for our power and research reactors and also produces materials of high purity of immense value to our industry e.g. Zirconium, Titanium etc. If in fact, I am asked to point out a large establishment next to BARC which had led us to a high degree of self-sufficiency in an atomic power programme, I would mention the Nuclear Fuel Complex. An atomic energy programme is incomplete without waste handling facilities. This is essentially because atomic reactors produce hazardous radio-active wastes which are to be treated and stored very carefully, in order to avoid any hazards to the environment. Practically at every power plant, we have a large waste disposal unit to take care of the hazards aspects of atomic energy programme. I have a feeling that several countries believe that we are somewhat over-cautious in our Health Physics and protection programmes, but in the particular case of atomic energy, I think it is better to be on the safe side.

VARIABLE ENERGY CYCLOTRON PROJECT

As a measure of our self-sufficiency in very sophisticated technology, I would like to mention the completely indigenously fabricated atomic-smashing machine called the 60 Mev Variable Energy Cyclotron being set up at Calcutta. This has a curious history. For several years, the nuclear scientists had been asking Dr. Bhabha for his encouragement and support in building a big cyclotron to provide the necessary facilities for the large number of nuclear physicists available in the country. For some reasons he had been very hesitant about this programme. He however, set up a committee to report on the various types of cyclotrons in existence and their possible uses. A report was prepared and at the same time a conference of all nuclear scientists was called at Bombay in August 1964 to take a decision on the programme. After hearing the case presented by the scientists, Dr. Bhabha completely turned in favour of providing such a facility. As a result of this, a very sophisticated variable energy cyclotron with practically all the components made in India either at Trombay or in the Public Sector like BHEL, Bhopal and Heavy Electricals, Ranchi is reaching a stage of completion at the SALT Lake site at Calcutta. The machine is expected to go into operation some time early next year. Though this cyclotron was originally planned to be a nuclear physics facility, it has now become clear to all of us that it will be one of the most important tools for the study of radiation damage in solids of special value in a fast reactor programme. Yet, when we were in process of trying to convince Dr. Bhabha of the usefulness of this machine and had almost succeeded in doing so, for some unknown reasons, foreign scientists used to write to him dissuading him from giving any encouragement for this project. I have never understood this negative interference from outside scientists for a programme which we now know will be of immense value to Physics and our pure research programme. The most inexplicable part being why these foreign scientists at the same time were permitting their own scientists to build a facility in their own country.

THREE PHASES

I would say that the first phase of our atomic energy programme lasts from 1948 to 1956 when the Apsara went critical, the second phase of planning and construction of large facilities lasts from 1956 to 1966 when Dr. Bhabha died. From 1966 to 1974 is the phase of construction of power stations and utilization of large research facilities. I have briefly described the developments in atomic energy in the last 25 years taking us to the year 1973.

There has recently been added interest in our atomic energy programme since we carried out a peaceful nuclear explosion on May 18, 1974 in the deserts of Rajasthan. I do not have to say that this is an experiment in which the design, planning and execution are all done with Indian resources by our own boys. In this particular case, there can be no doubt about it. I am pretty certain had Dr. Bhabha been alive, he would have strongly supported the aims of our experiment on the 18th May and I can say from my long personal association with him that he was keen on understanding all aspects of peaceful uses of atomic energy including nuclear explosions. We have shown that at low cost one can carry out a PNE which is fully contained. We have described elsewhere its possible uses but we still have to carefully study

(Contd. on page 8)

AN ACID SHOT

Sharp, acid Voltaire one day met on the boulevard a wealthy old acqaintance of 60 who had recently married a pretty young girl of poor family. Voltaire extended his congratulations and his friend thanked him.

"I think we will be very happy" he said, "even if we can no longer hope for children."

"No," said Voltaire. "I don't believe you can hope for them. You can only be afraid of them."

* * *

LIKE HELL!

A sexton cleaning up the pulpit after Sunday service took a peep at the preacher's manuscript. Along the left margin were instructions such as: "Pause here," "Wipe brow here," "Use angry fist gesture," "Look upward." Near the end was a long paragraph of texts, opposite which the preacher had marked in capital letters: "Argument weak here, yell like hell!"

* * *

SEEING IS GRABBING!

Two women were chatting over tea.

"Yes," said one, reminiscently "I fell desperately in love with my dear husband at first sight. I remember it just as though it were yesterday. I was walking along the front at Brighton with my father and he suddenly pointed to him and said. "There my dear, goes a man worth 100,000 pounds!"

* * *

JUST A DOUBT

Teacher put her spring hat (hopefully brought out again for second season) in front of her very juvenile class. "N o w, children," she said, "I want you to look at my hat and then write one or two little sentences about it."

Silence for some minutes. Then a small voice inquired anxiously; "Please, miss, are there two b's in shabby?"

* * *

CLUE!

Sherlock Holmes: "Ah, my dear Watson: I see you have on your summer underwear."

Watson: "Marvellous. Holmes, marvellous. How ever did you deduce that?"

"You've forgotten to put on your trousers."

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FUN AND LAUGHTER

TANK AND CONTENTS

A motorist, who had a fifty gallon tank of petrol in reserve when rationing was introduced, consulted a friend as what to do about it.

"Bury it, my dear fellow," was the reply.

Accordingly, he gave his gardener instruction next day to dig a hole for it in a secluded spot.

After a time the gardener returned.

"I've buried the petrol," he said "What do you want done with the tank?"

* * *

CONVERT

A super salesman was going to commit suicide by jumping into a river. A policeman ran up and stopped him, saying:

"Here! you can't do that"

"Oh, can't I?" said tke super sales man.

He talked to the Policeman for ten minutes and then they both jumped in.

* * *

SECRET

An enormously fat man passed down the street and two friends looked thoughtfully after him. Said the first; "How fat he's got!"

"No wonder" said the second "he's lived solely on potatoes for several months."

"Impossible! Does he eat them?"

"No, he sells them!"

* * *

REVERSE

Three men arrived at the railway station with the intention of catching the last train. As they reached the platform the train began to move out. The men ran for the train, and the guard and a porter bundled two of them into the guard's van.

The third man stood disconsolately on the platform watching it disappear.

"Hard luck, Sir," said the porter, "I'm sorry you were unable to get in."

"Yes," replied the man. "My friends will be sorry, too; they were only seeing me off."

* * *

NOT YET!

Jack was a regular visitor to the local library. It was noticed that he always took out the same book, opened it eagerly, and then indulged in a hearty burst of laughter. The curiosity of the attendant was aroused. He went behind the visitor, looked over his shoulder, and found that he was gazing at the picture of a small boy being chased by a large bull. The attendant was about to ask Jack what he was laughing at, when he chuckled: "Golly! He ain't catched him yet."

THE RETORT

A Hindu and I were joking about cleanliness in each other's country. I brought my favourite accusations and for each of them he had a counter-charge. Finally I cited what I thought a most unpleasant habit common in India. "Yes" he admitted, "but you Occidentals have a habit more unpleasant. You carry hand kerchiefs, use them once, then use them again." He shuddered "It is horrible."

- James Saxon Childers.

* * *

ON THE REGISTER

Old Lady: "Didn't I tell you never to come here again?"

Tramp: "I hope you will pardon me, madam, it is the fault of my secretary He has neglected to strike your name from my calling list."

* * *

THE LIAR

"What happened to your nice lodger, Mrs. Murphy!"

"I had to get rid of him. He told me he was a Bachelor of Arts from Cambridge, and I found out he had a wife and family in Lancashire."

* * *

WHAT BRAND?

A man was bragging that he could name any brand of spirit and an onlooker, taking a flask from his pocket, asked the connoisseur to taste that and tell him what it was.

He did so and promptly spat it out.

"Good Heavens," he cried. "That's petrol!"

"Yes, I know," came the bland reply, "but what brand?"

* * *

NOT BAD!

The old iron merchant was trundling his barrow along a narrow road. Behind him, the impatient driver of a motor-car was hooting and tooting impatiently for room to pass.

The old-iron merchant set his barrow down in the middle of the road, turned round, and made a speculative survey of the car.

"Orl right, guv'nor," he said. "I'll call round for that tomorrow. I'm full up now!"

* * *

TIT FOR TAT

Mother (at seven o'clock in the evening): "Come, Ethel, it is bed time. All the little birds have gone to sleep in their nests."

Ethel (at five o'clock next morning): "Come, mamma, it is time to get up. All the little birds are up, and the mamma birds, too."

LAWYER AND STRANGER

A lawyer was sitting in his office when a stranger appeared at the door and said: "Can you please tell me where Robson's office is?"

"Yes, sir—next door."

The stranger thanked him and went to the next door which was locked. Returning to the lawyer he said: "Robson seems to be out."

"Of course, he is. If you had asked me that question in the first place, I should have told you so."

The visitor departed, and, returning next day, asked the lawyer—"How much will you charge for a verbal opinion in a little matter?"

"Oh, six-and-eight."

The case was started and the opinion given, and the stranger was going away, when the lawyer said: "My fee, please."

"I haven't a single penny to pay you with."

"You haven't?"

"Of course, not. If you had asked me that question in the first place, I should have told you so. Good morning, sir."

TOO LATE!

Throughout the evening meal neither had spoken. But as soon as the plates had been cleared away and they were seated before the fire, the husband's face lost some of its hardness.

"You know, dear," he said, breaking the long silence, "I've been thinking over our argument."

"Well," she snapped, without looking up from her sewing.

"Yes, dear, I've decided to agree with you after all," he said meekly.

"That won't do any good," she sniffed. "I've changed my mind."

* * *

BREAKING THE NEWS!

Here is a story of a member of the Saye and Sele family. At dinner, she said: "Father, I'm married"

"Well, my dear," said father, "you might have waited until John, the butler, had left the room before telling me."

"There's no need for John to leave, father. John is the man I've married."

* * *

THE OTHER WAY

Oscar Wilde arrived at his club one evening, after witnessing a first production of a play that was a complete failure.

"Oscar, how did your play go tonight?" asked a friend.

"Oh," was the lofty response, "the play was a great success but the audience was a failure."

U. S. Court Clarifies Obscenity

By C. ROBERT ZELNICK

The scope of what is obscene and what is not has been given a little wider view in important new decisions by the U. S. Supreme Court.

The point under consideration was a controversial film and its place within the concept of the court's earlier pronouncements concerning community standards.

The two decisions, one declaring a film permissible and the other finding a pamphlet obscene, hinged on the actual ways in which sexually oriented materials is depicted.

The motion picture "Carnal Knowledge" cannot be banned as obscene by any "community in the United States, all nine Supreme Court justices held. This was a long-awaited further definition of last year's "community standards" decision.

CONVICTION REVERSED

Reversing the obscenity conviction of Billy Jenkens, an Albany, Ga., motion-picture proprietor, five of the justices, headed by Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist, concluded that the film was protected by 1st and 14th Amendment guarantees of free expression.

Reviewing the film before reaching its decision, the court determined that it could not constitutionally be found to depict sexual conduct in a patently offensive way.

Three concurring justices, led by Associate Justice William J. Brennan Jr., urged that sexually oriented materials cannot be banned unless they are distributed to juveniles or exhibited to juveniles or exhibited in an obtrusive manner to unconsenting adults.

In a separate concurring opinion, Associate Justice William O. Douglas argued that any obscenity censorship violates the 1st and 14th Amendments.

IMPORTANT VICTORY SEEN

The "Carnal Knowledge" decision is seen as an important victory for both the publishing and the motion-picture industries, which had expressed concern that under the narrow "community standards" approach, controversial works with substantial artistic or literary merit could run afoul of strict local censorship.

At the same time, a 5-to-4 court majority showed little sympathy for peddlers of so-called ' hard core' pornography, affirming California district-court convictions of four people and two corporations who had mailed thousands of sexually explicit pamphlets advertising the "Illustrated presidential report of the Commission on Obscenity and Pornography."

Pictures in the pamphlet illustrated many of the sexual activities described in a glossary to the 646-page report prepared at the direction of the White House in 1970. Upon reviewing the material at the time, the white House suppressed distributian of the commission report.

Recent holding in Jenkins Vs. Georgia and Hamling Vs U.S. clarify somewhat the court's landmark holdings in the Miller and Paris Theater cases decided last year. Those two cases promulgated new court guidelines for dealing with obscenity prosecutions.

Under the Miller and Paris Theatre guidelines, the court held it appropriate for "local" as opposed to "national" community standards to be applied in determining whether sexually oriented material was presented in a "patently offensive" way. The court also dropped the "redeeming social value" test, under which a number of earlier obscenity convictions had been reversed.

But the two decisions left open questions as to how far communities can go in applying local sensitivities toward determination of whether material is "patently offensive."

Also left unanswered is the definition of community—whether the term embraces an entire state or narrower geographic subdivisions, such as counties or cities.

But the Jenkins and Hamling rulings offer a somewhat more concrete set of standards:

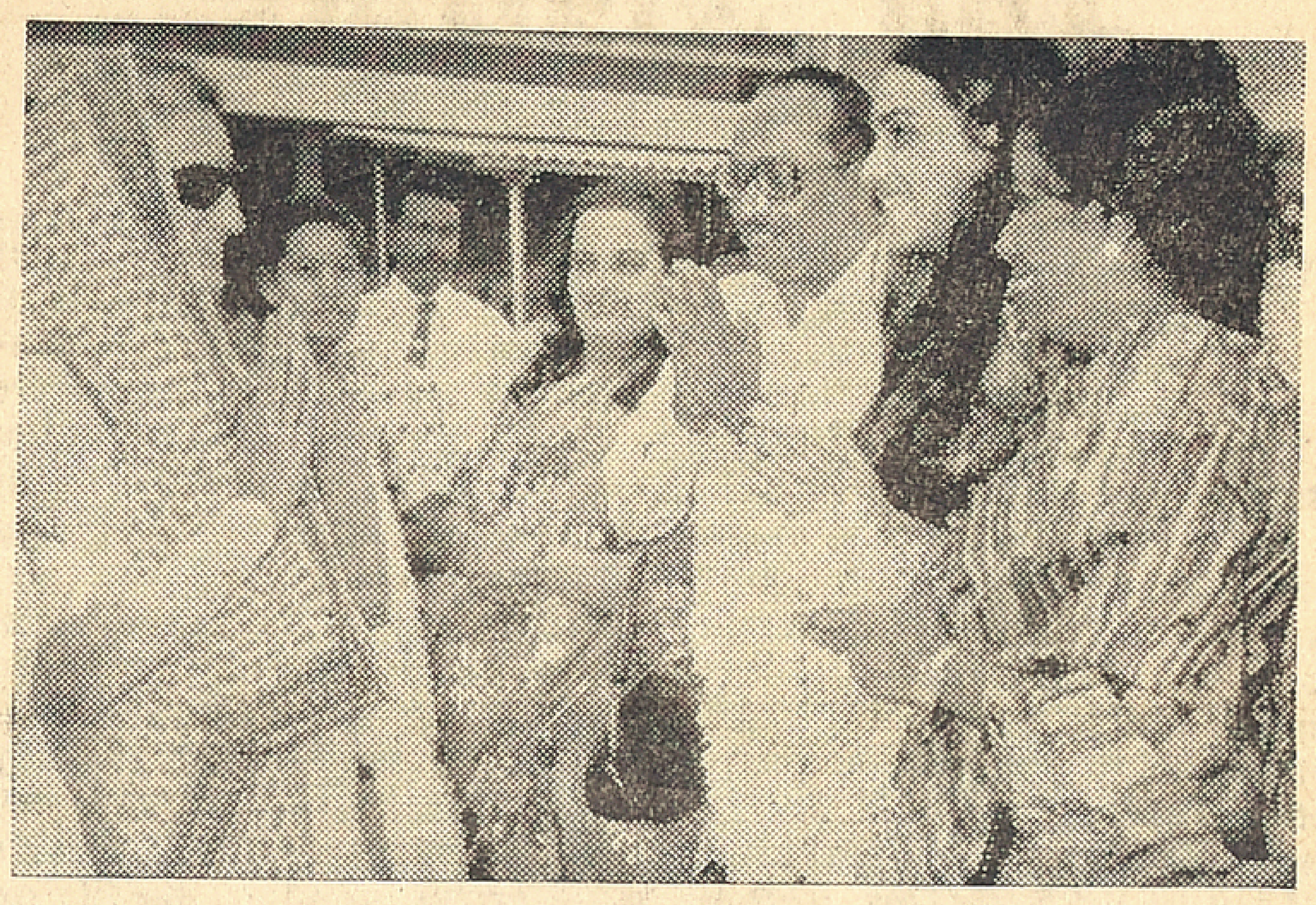
Examples of patently offensive materials first suggested by the court in the Miller case include "representations or descriptions of ultimate acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated......"

These examples, while not an exhaustive catalog, were 'certainly intended to fix substantive constitutional limitations, deriving from the First Amendment, on the type of material subject to [a patently offensive] ruling."

The court said that while standards may differ somewhat from community to community it would "be a serious misreading of Miller to conclude that juries have unbridled discretion in determining what is 'patently offensive."

As regards defining the term "community," the court held that the matter is for individual states to determine. So long as a national community standard is not applied, jurors may either define "local community" for themselves or may be instructed that it embraces a state region or city. —C. S. Monitor

Comments By Vishnu

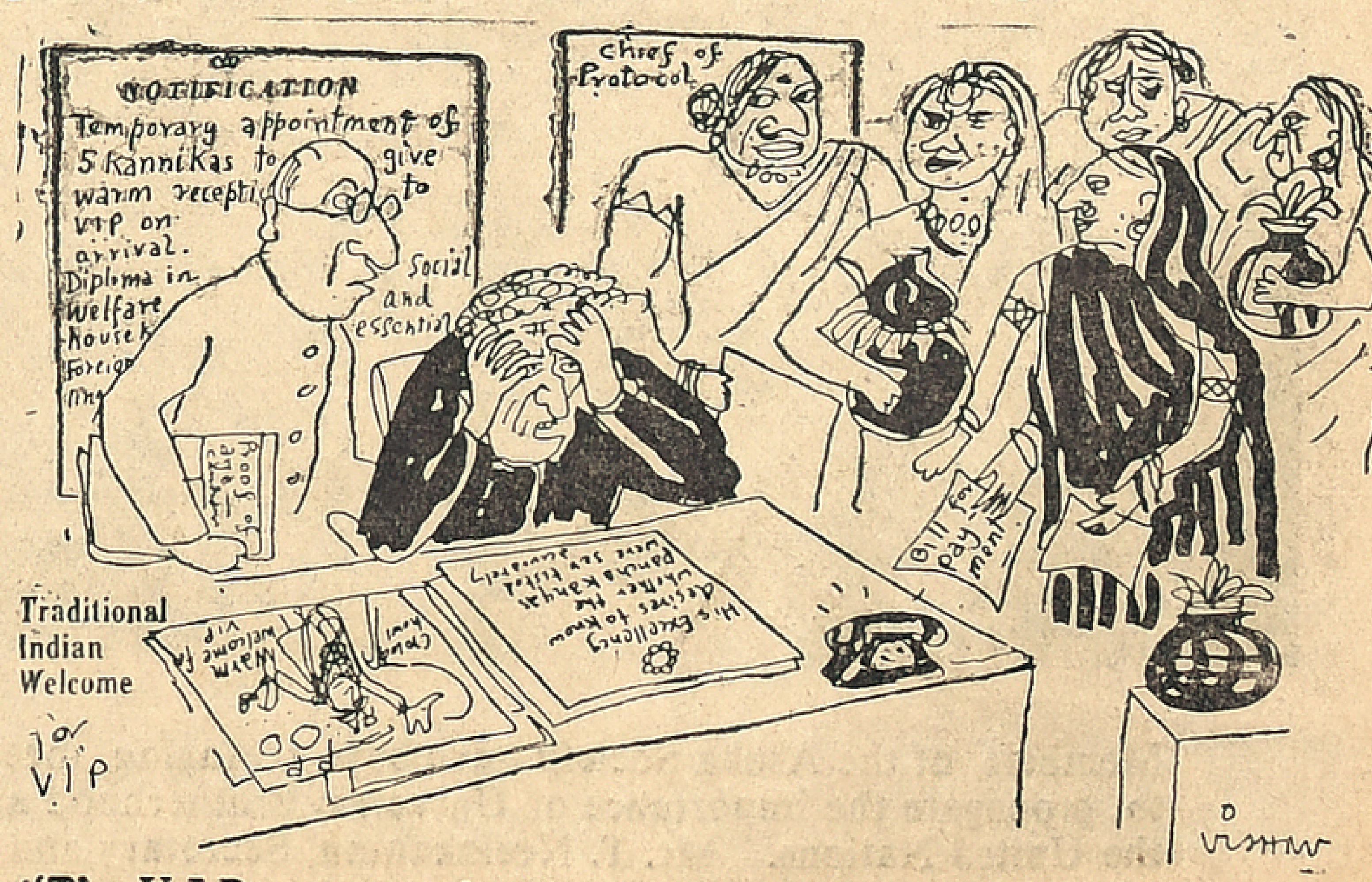


Chevaliar Denzil Vincent D'Monte and his family greet the Prime Minister on her recent visit to Madras. A distinguished person of Madras, D'Monte, K.S G. is a Member of the Madras Legislative Council, President of the Catholic Union of India, and President of the All India Anglo-Indian Association, Madras. His wide interests are also underlined by his activities not only in the field of politics and religion but also in Industry and sports. He is the proprietor of the Indian Engineering and Trading company that makes fuel injectors and electrical components, and a Director of the Pilot Engines P. Ltd. He is a "Proecclesia" gold medallist (1957) and was made a Knight by His Highness the Pope for exemplary services to society and to his religious denomination.

In a society where people who practice but do not preach hold sway, D.V.D' monte acts and does what he believes is right and is therefore singularly in the minority. A man of great personal charm he is one of those persons who matter in the city of Madras.

Mistaken Identity

No sooner had the foreigner emerged from his aircraft than he was pounced upon by five stout middle-aged women. They buried him beneath garlands. One applied a paste to his forehead. Another sang a song. Then they departed as suddently as they had appeared because they were keen not to miss the public transport bus to take them back to the city from the airport. These were the 'panchkanyas' hired by the tourism people to give a right royal welcome to the distinguished visitor. When he crawled out from beneath the debris of garlands the officials put him in a posh car and rushed him from tourist spot to tourist spot showing him the wonderful things to see in the land. Only near the elephant carvings at Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram) did they allow him to speak. Then from his broken English they gathered that the V I.P they were expecting was to come by the next flight and that he was merely a member, though a senior one, of the advance party. So they became rather peeved and threw him into the sea close to the shore temple and rushed to the airport to be in time to recieve their honoured guest. They recovered all the garlands and thanks to the delay in the public transport system they were able to reassemble their 'panchkanyas' who were still waiting at the bus stop sweating in the hot sun. Their demand for a double honorarium was firmly turned down on the grounds that they might not be considered favourably the next time they applied for this great privilege of giving a V.I.P. a traditional welcome. Thus they were silenced and they did their duty cheerfully.



"The V.I.P's want to be received by pretty girls; the department demands that selection should be by Service Seniority alone..."

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN
(General Knowledge Agency)

UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD – THE ONLY SALVATION

"The thing is not to proclaim internationalism, but to be able to be an internationalist in deed, even when times are most trying" – these are the noble words of a noble soul, V.I. Lenin. Unless and until the peoples of the world are internationalists both in word and in deed, the future of mankind will not be bright. This feeling of internationalism is there now in a scattered way, but it should have an universal sway. And this feeling should come out in action, by the people in one corner of the world rushing help to the people in another corner, whenever they are in distress.

Before becoming an internationalist, one should first be a good nationalist. In many nations, all are not nation-minded. Even in our own country, we rarely speak as an Indian but often as a Punjabi, as a Gujarati, as a Bengali and as a Madrasi. And then we speak as a Hindu, as a Muslim and as a Christian. And again the Hindus speak as caste-Hindus and Harijans. And the Harijans, who are standing on the lowest rung of the social ladder, have many sub-sects and they speak of superiority and inferiority among themselves. If such differences between man and man are allowed to continue, life will be very unhappy not only to ourselves but also to our descendants. Elders may find it difficult to change their out-look. But the younger generation, who have a long future before them, should have a broader outlook. They should think and act in terms of nationalism and internationalism. They should propagate the importance of Universal Brotherhood, as frequently as possible and in as many places as possible. And greater emphasis should be laid on this, while celebrating the United Nations Day on the 24th October and the Human Rights Day on the 10th December of every year. Only when the Man's mind grows broader, his life on earth will be happier.

RECEPTION IN THE OTHER WORLD.

In the pre-Independence days, a large number of our countrymen were imprisoned for their participation in our freedom struggle. Many were sent to the gallows. Among them Vishnu Ganesh Pingale was one. He was a young man. On the day of execution, the Officer-in-charge put the name of Pingale at the end of the list of those to be hanged. When the turn of Pingale came, the Officer-in-charge told him :- "I tried to give you as much of a span of life as I could. I deliberately kept your name as the last in the list". Spiritedly and at the same time humorously, Pingale replied :- "You made a mistake Sir. Had I been sent earlier to the other world, I would have made magnificent arrangements there for their (those who were executed before him) reception and stay". On hearing this, the Officer highly appreciated the young man's boldness and patriotic spirit, even at the time of his death.

Members of the Asoka Society have been arranging meetings and functions to propagate the importance of Universal Brotherhood and the activities of the United Nations. Mr. T. Neelakantan, Secretary and some of the active members of the Society, are seen in the picture.

Multi-Media Festival

"Recently, we organised a mini-camp at Devershola Hospital in Gudalur, a place prominently inhabited by Muslims. ....We found a large number of people had turned out for sterilisation which is a clear indication that the Multi-Media Information Campaign has conveyed the message of the small family norm". This is one of the findings of an impact survey made soon after a Multi-Media Festival had been held in the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu.

The intensive information campaign, popularly known as Multi-Media Festival, is a major strategy fashioned jointly by the State and Central Government communication media to accelerate communication and motivation in the non-urban areas. All the resources available with the State Government and with the various Media Units of the Central Government such as All India Radio, Directorate of Field Publicity, Song and Drama Division, Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, Press Information Bureau, etc. are marshalled into an intensive information campaign in selected areas with a view to achieving effective impact on the inhabitants of even the remote villages. Except for a major inaugural function at a prominent place, the Multi-Media Information Campaign is mainly organised in villages and hamlets. A wide range of media are used in the campaign. These include special radio programmes, film shows, exhibitions, programmes of song and drama, demonstrations and face-to-face meetings, information through Wall Newspaper,etc. The Intensive Information Campaign aims to put across messages of national importance such as National Integration, Family Planning, economic development in all its aspects like Agriculture, Industrial Development and Minimum Needs.

In Tamil Nadu, special attention has been paid in organising such multimedia festivals to backward areas of the State. The first such festival was held in the District of Nilgiris in January last and it is an extract from the study of the reaction to this festival that it is quoted at the beginning of this article. A special target audience of the Nilgiri festival were the plantation workers. To many of the women workers, the film shows brought to them during the Multi-Media Festival came as a first experience.

Following the favourable impact of the festival in Nilgiris, a multi-media festival has been launched in the Dharmapuri District which is also a backward area. The festival was inaugurated on September 20 last by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and is now in full swing.

During the campaign, all the 16 blocks of the district are being covered with a variety of informative and entertaining programmes having a bearing on development. The festival will continue for a month.

The Multi-Media Festival is proposed to be taken to the Ramanathapuram District next.

The Intensive Information Campaign is a fine example of cooperative effort to maximise the use of mass media to speed up progress.

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the behaviour of radioactive substances underground. The drilling for getting such information is in full swing.

We must all recognise that all these great achievements that Dr. Bhabha and his colleagues were able to fulfill in the last 25 years would have been impossible but for the firm support and encouragement in a scientific sense given by the late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who died just about 10 years ago. His faith in science was immense and I hope the scientists in the atomic Energy Commission have been worthy of this confidence. I am happy to say we have received the same support from the present Prime Minister and her genius of clear and well defined decisions have already helped us to make our contributions to the development of the country in the atomic field. While progress in atomic energy has reached peaks in our over-all developments, I would like to see it as an important prop to the whole of our industrial development and structure in the next phase of our activities. —Concluded

"Akkarai. Pachai"

By M A. SRINIVASAN

"Fraility" thy name is woman, said the great English poet of Stratsford-on-Avon. With equal truth one might say that "Discontentment" is another name for woman. And this is true of man as well. This universal dissatisfaction with one's own lot and seeing with green eyes only the rosy side of the lives of others, whether better placed or not, is such a common hackneyed subject that one may well wonder whether an interesting picture can be made around this failing.

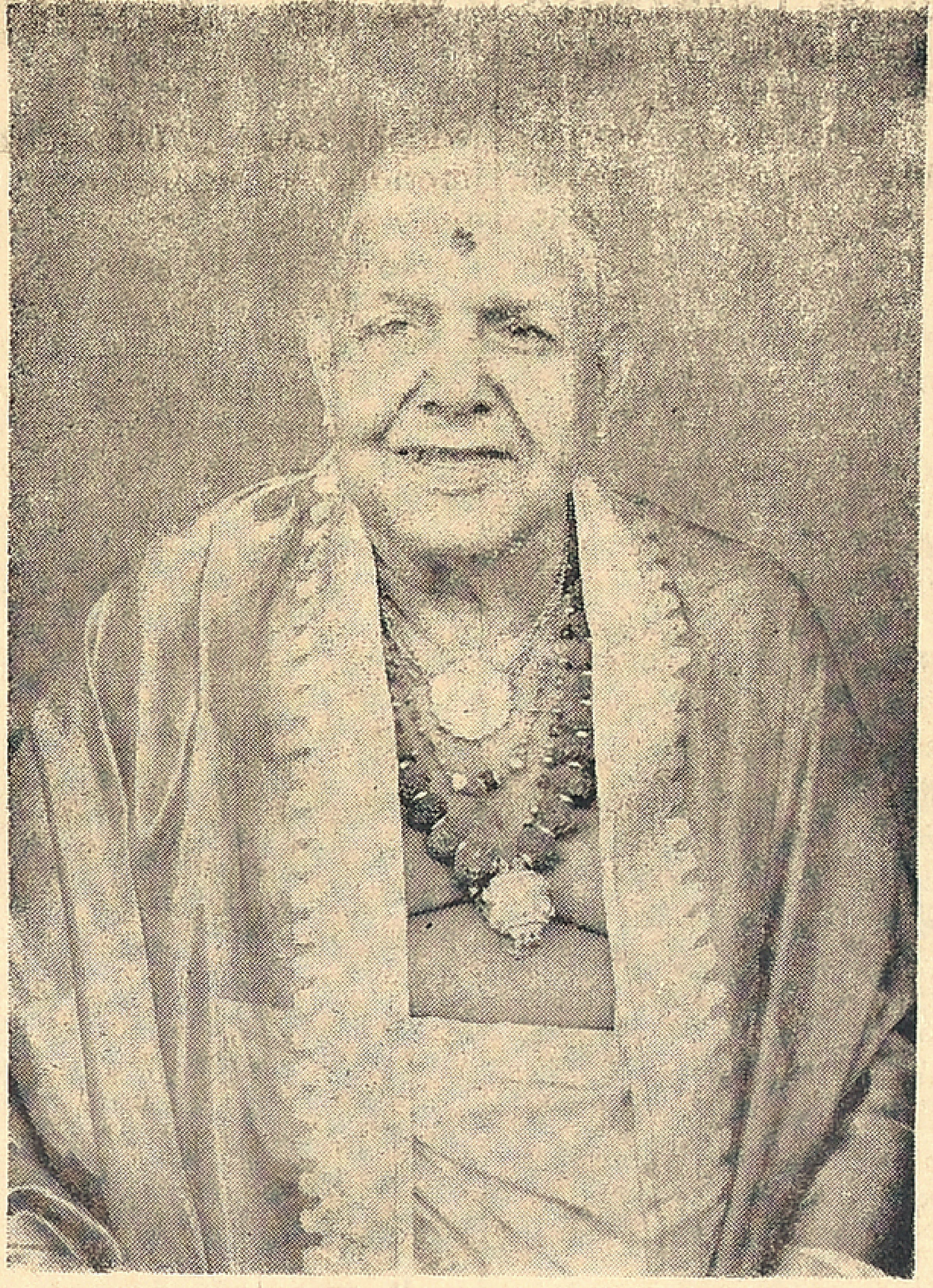
Yet the picture "Akkarai Pachai" produced by Yoga-chithra is a challenge to the general presumption that you cannot make a successful picture on the subject of a common weakness. But, people do like to see their own foibles shown on the screen or on the stage and the more it is exaggerated the better. That is the secret of success of "Cho's" plays, if one may say so.

Lakshmi and Jayachitra are sisters. The former is married to an author who is, of course, poor, but who is not only very affectionate towards his wife, but is also very very close to her most of the time. The latter is married to a wealthy industrialist and has every conceivable luxury (but not smuggled) article. but to her chagrin, her husband has no time to bestow his lover or caresses to her. Each sister openly envies the good fortune of the other and pines to be in the other's place. They give no peace of mind to their husbands, but bits of their mind in plenty and almost take the life out of their husbands.

The two husbands decide to teach their wives a good lesson. They exchange their places to the immense joy and satisfaction of their spouses. But the joy and satisfaction prove to be shortlived. Lakshmi with all wealth comes to feel that an affectionate and loving husband is the richest wealth a woman can aspire for Likewise Jayachitra finds herself unable to lead a life of want and penury. They prefer to go back and resume their old lives, which they now discover to be satisfying and happy.

Lakshmi as the poor author's wife proves what a consummate artiste that she is. In one sequence, she drops an aluminium vessel and her husband questions her what was the noise about. ith poignant irony, she retorts "An aluminium vessel will only produce nosie and not music" and the entire auditorium roars with laughter. Jayachitra is as usual active and sparkling. Jaishankar as the industrialist and Ravi Chander as the author give convincing performances. Nagesh provides good comedy.

A.S. Prakasam's dialogues are racy, humorous and enjoyable and contribute to the film's success in a large measure. But one wished that the artistes spoke with less speed, because you fail to follow them in some places. To Kannadasan's songs M S. Viswanathan has set the tunes well and the song "Arasanai Partha Kannuku" is catchy. Viswanathan himself has sung the title song N. Venkatesh who has directed the picture, which makes you laugh to your heart's content. At the same time, the film emphasises a moral, namely, that contentment is the best medicine for happiness.



We are shocked to hear the sudden demise of Sangitha Kalanidhi Padmabushan Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavathar. It is a great loss to the musical and cultural world of India. No musician has been so active and agile in the ripe old age of 78. He was the rarest example of performing artistes. He was known for his versatality in the Art of music. We have lost a great scholar, teacher, friend and philosopher ; above all we have lost a gentleman with intense humanitarian feelings. He lived a full life and reached the highest. He used to say that he should leave this world while engaged in singing. This prayer has been granted by the Lord. May the noble soul rest in peace.

—S. D. Sundaram

Fine One-man Show

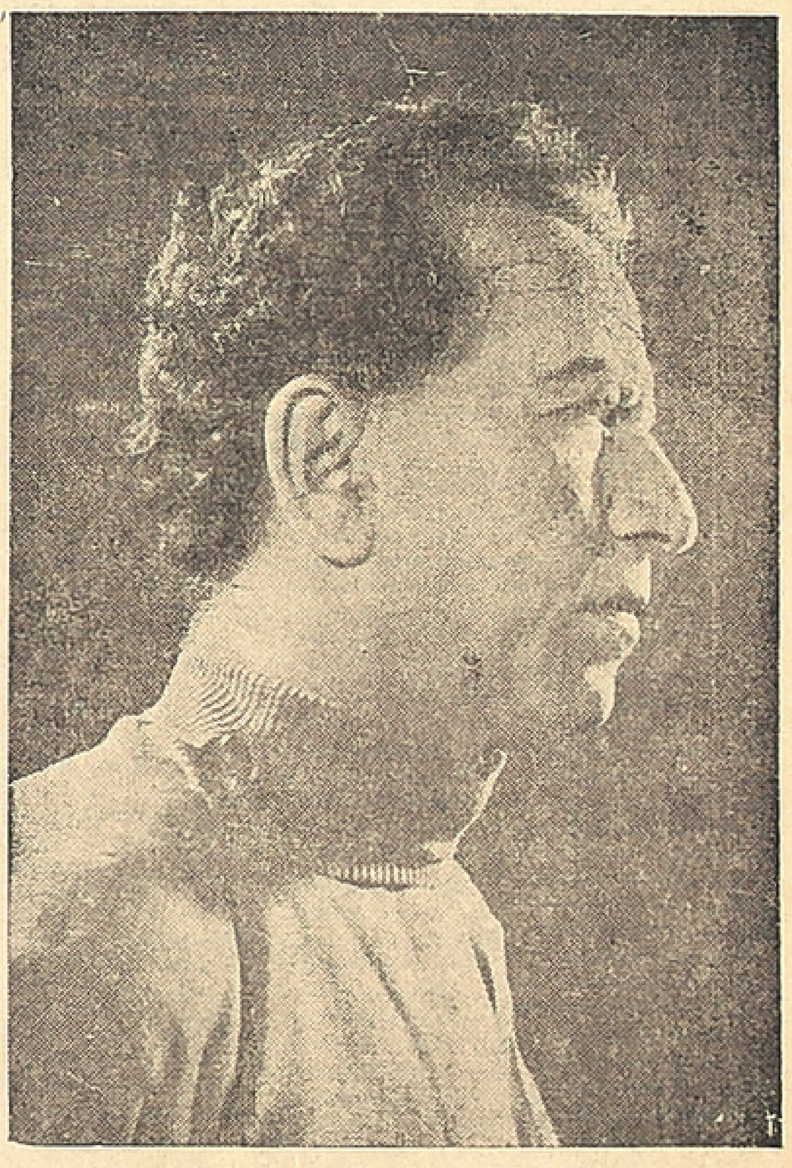
Dr. Chandrasekharam, well known mono-actor, gave a fine performance showing his various skills as a mono-actor, mimicry artiste and make up expert, last week at the S.G.S. Sabha Hall, Madras.

Chandrasekharam will be seventyone on November 16 He has been doing yeomen service to the nation through the stage for the past 50 years. He is pursuing this art not as a money spinner but with the sole aim of providing light entertainment to his audience. He believes that good, unmaligned fun and laughter are the best tonics for mature growth of mind and body.

His show last week was well received and appreciated. The highlight of the show was his craftsmanship as a make-up expert. He appeared as the late President Dr. Zakhir Hussain and perplexed the audience with the thought whether they were seeing real Dr. Zakhir Hussain on the stage exhorting the importance of the role of art in the cultural development of the nation.

Other important items of his performance were recitation of an English poem by different students in a class room, the expert professor in thought reading and the layman who professed to be an expert doctor.

Chandrasekharam, at this age of 70, proved how brisk and alert he is by his quick change overs of dress and make-up. His modulation of voice to suit different characters he was acting and his expressions were excellent.



Dr. CHANDRASEKHARAM

Mrs. Hemalatha Anjeneyulu, well known journalist, provided the introductory comments for each item of the performance of Dr. Chandrasekharam.

Mrs Chandri M Bhat, with her sweet and melodious voice entertained by singing some Konkani songs that are popular in South Kanara area.

Mr. Babu Hussain, a student of the I.I.T., Madras, rendered a few English and Hindi numbers on the Piano-Accordion and guitar.

The Variety Entertainment was arranged by the Gowd Saraswat Women's Association, Madras.

Gennady Pechnikov plays the Role of Rama in the Moscow Central Children's Theater's RAMAYANA.

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"Tenant of the Lord's Chest." It goes on to describe Her mercy graceful eyes, yearning, Her auspicious benedictory words, Her beauty, erotics, wealth patience, compassion, pervasive form, unique history, greatness of name and home, grant of refuge (freedom from fear), elimination of other (minor) gods the ten Avataras of Vishnu, prayers, repentence and surrender (of self at Her feet). This is the quintessence of Sri Bhagavad Ramaniyu's commentary "Sri Bhashya" on Badarayana's Uttara Mimamsa Sutras as expounded by Sriman Nigamanta Maha Desika in his "Rahasya Traya Saaram" In order to vindicate the unique place of Lakshmi in the divine drama of Lord Lakshmi Narayana, who is always a Mithuna, pair of mother and father, parents of the universe and all the animate and inanimate beings there in, this poet Venkatadvari has produced this Lakshmi Sahasram and bequeathed it to us.

ORIGINAL SCRIPT GRANTHA

The original, though the language is Sanskrit, was written in the Grantha characters on palm leaves in Tamil Nadu, possibly Kanchipuram as the author came from Arasanipalai, a village on the banks of Cheyyar sixteen kilometers south of Kanchi. It was printed about a hundred years ago in the Granth characters and inspired several authors to unite and print their own commentaries in Sanskrit which is quite natural and logical considering its merits as a model for students of poesy and prosody, figures of speech and allied grammatical norms so useful for students and scholars a like of classical Sanskrit poetry. It is a pity that these commentaries, though printed a hundred years ago are not now freely available even in research libraries and manuscript collections. It has gone into rare collections.

WANTED IN NAGARI SCRIPT

It is, therefore, necessary to reprint the monumental poetic work in Deva Nagari script to be of universal currency and if possible to reprint all the various commentaries available in a single volume or different volumes. A special committee of poets, scholars and critics drawn from the far corners of the country should be formed to take up the task of editing and reprinting Lakshmi Sahasram in Nagari Script and make it available to all Astikas who wish to learn it, recite it, sing it, dance it or enact it and also discuss, expound, understand and benefit by its teaching of the doctrine of Saranaagati which is the end and aim of mankind according to the Sri Vaishnava School of philosophy and religion which pervades the whole of India, which is Bharat, nay of the entire world.

From page

Will It Help Toning Up...

which says: "The change of motion is proportional to the motive force impressed; and is made in the direction of the right line in which that force is impressed." If Smt Gandhi is the force that brings about the change of motion in her Cabinet colleagues, this latest round of reshuffle of portfolios show the rather extraordinarily halting application of that force.

For weeks before the actual reconstitution of the Cabinet, there were talks of a major shake-up, of "surgical operation" about to be performed. In terms of reshuffling her pack of cards, Smt Gandhi has no doubt gone through the ritual. But, one is now left wondering: Reshuffle for what? What has been the underlying principle on which it has been undertaken, and how much of the original plan could actually be forced through by Smt Gandhi?

It was said for months that the Prime Minister herself was anxious to keep the portfolio of Defence under her own charge, and hence Sri Jagjivan Ram should be moved out of it. She did cross the first hurdle and got Sri Ram out of Defence, but she could not get it for herself.

Sardar Swaran Singh, fired with the illusion of having become a world statesman by going on flying jaunts to places as far apart as Moscow and Washington, Seoul and San Francisco, could not be compelled to take charge of an economic portfolio and stuck on to the demand for Defence with the same persistence as a child hankers for lollypop. Thereby, the Prime Minister allowed to go by default the very principle by which she was supposed to be reconstituting her ministerial team, namely, that in the face of the grave economic crisis before the country, her senior colleagues claiming to have political weightage could be made to take up the responsibilities of the key economic portfolios.

If this was the argument used to move Sri Jagjivan Ram from Defence to Agriculture (made a little more attractive with the addition of Irrigation), it was abandoned when tackling Sardar Swaran Singh: his journey to Defence looks like a return ticket from an excursion in External Affairs.

If Sri Brahmananda Reddy with his reputation for toughness is supposed to gear up Home, left in a state of inertia by Sri Uma Shankar Dikshit, it was perhaps meant also to placate the South which never had a Home Minister at the Centre since Rajaji held the office for a brief spell after Sardar Patel, nearly twenty-five years ago.

But was it at all necessary to retain the discredited Sri Dikshit as a sort of mythical Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster? After all, the Ministers without Port-folio in the past—Krishna Menon, TTK and Lal Bahadur—were men who were not pensioners or hangers-on but those who had multifarious assignments to undertake. There is an equal lack of rationale in retaining two whose competence and capacities are perhaps less than marginal—Dr. Karan Singh and Sri Kamlapati Tripathi

By standards of administrative competence, Sri T. A. Pai has already made a mark, but one has to probe for the criterion by which he has been saddled with Civil Supplies. The long talked-about Ministry of Essential Supplies has not been set up: is it because of lack of competent personnel, or because some of those who were campaigning for it, fought shy of themselves taking it up? This is a very serious gap in the new team of Ministers, a gap which will be duly noticed by the growingly critical public, hard-hit by scarcity and black-marketing in essential commodities.

Sri K D. Malaviya's new portfolio should have come to him ten months ago when he rejoined the Cabinet: he could have done a lot more by now, at least for Petroleum for which Sri D K. Barooah displayed little interest or energy.

While there is favourable reaction to some of the tested Ministers of State retaining their portfolios—particularly Sri Nurul Hassan, Sri I. K. Gujral, Sri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Sri Raghunatha Reddy and Sri R.K. Khadilkar—the important assignments given to Sri Chandrajit Yadav and Sri K. C. Pant are really challenging and they will have to disprove by their performance the validity of Peter's Principle.

Similarly, the new responsibilities to be shouldered by Sri Pranab Mukherjee, Sri Om Mehta and Sri A. C. George will provide scope for their emerging as administrators of competence with a sense of direction. Particularly, Sri Mehta and Sri Mukherjee will have to guard against their Ministries becoming strongholds of Reaction since the Cabinet incumbents in charge of Home and Finance are suspect in the eyes of the forward-looking elements both inside the Congress and outside. While Sri Amiya Kisku's removal is welcome, there is no earthly reason why Smt Gandhi should have chosen a corrupt operator like Sri A. P Sharma unless it was to placate some of his known Right-wing patrons.

What has added to the mess is the knowledge widely shared in the Capital that there would be further changes in the set-up at the Centre. This extends from Policy Planning in the External Affairs Ministry to the Planning Commission leadership, from the need to have some new governors, to a firm decision on Bihar—issues with each of which is linked the future assignments of some of the present members of the Council of Ministers.

The total picture that has emerged from what is known as Cabinet Reshuffle is that Smt Indira Gandhi with all the unchallenged authority at her command in the Congress, could not unflinchingly adhere to a firm criterion of competence and performance record in choosing her Ministers. For too many extraneous considerations —group policies-cum-subjective attachments and pressures—have come in the way.

With all the talk of modernity, feudal values die hard in this land of grotesque anomalies.

—"N. C." Mainstream.

A Legacy Of Gasoline

American administration leaders are debating a proposal to set mandatory gasoline mileage standards for future automobiles. The proposal, put forth by the environmental protection agency (EPA), would require Detroit's output to average 14 miles a gallon on 1977 cars. This would increase each year until it reached 21 miles on 1985 cars.

Detroit could still build big highprofit gas hogs that get only 10 miles to the gallon. But for every such gas guzzier it would have to build enough small, high-mileage cars to reach the mileage average in the proposed law.

EPA argues that federal compulsion is necessary to prevent the nation's notoriously wasteful consumption of gasoline from continuing in future years. When the Arab embargo fades into a mere unpleasant memory, EPA fears that Detroit will drift back to the high-profit dinosaurs and an affluent public will snap them up despite higher gasoline prices.

As believers in the corrective and punitive power of the free market, we would in normal cirmcumstances argue against the EPA proposal. It is attractive to think that Detroit will voluntarily turn out gas-thrifty cars because the public, chastened by high gasoline prices, will be willing to buy nothing else. But the record discourages such thinking.

Oil is an exhaustible natural resource. This generation has no right to consnme it all, leaving nothing for the generations to come. If restraint can be achieved only through federal mileage controls, so be it.

—Boston Herald American.

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

A PUBLICITY STUNT

A lot of malicious stuff was written in the Western Press on the so called "abstract art exhibition" in Moscow recently. As an eye-witness, I can say that the real facts about the incident did not get publicity abroad.

The residents of the area where the incidents took place were actually engaged in voluntary work on a Sunday morning by levelling the ground with machines and planting bushes. It was at that time that the self-styled "artists" appeared on the scene and insisted on holding their unauthorised "art exhibition". The very fact that they had brought with them some Western correspondents and diplomats proved that their purpose in holding the show was to create a scene and get cheap publicity abroad.

The local residents requested them not to disturb the work that was in progress and hold the exhibition elsewhere. But the defiant young men were adamant and started abusing the men at work in filthy language. Some of them also started putting up the pictures The local residents got infuriated at the misbehaviour of the intruders and the situation got tense, threatening to spark off an open clash. The policemen were called at this stage who restored order by taking into custody some of the most unruly elements of the group.

However, a few days later, when the "artists" showed a more reasonable attitude, they were assigned an alternative site for holding the exhibition. Some sixty long-haired, bearded people exhibited about 300 mediocre pieces, most of which were depressing for their complete lack of talent.

A curious crowd collected at the spot expecting to see something interesting. But being disappointed at the poor show, it soon melted away. "Well, thats curious...funny...strange... old-hat..." were some of the remarks heard in their conversation.

Eventhough some of the Western correspondents tried to give an ideological colour to this unpleasant incident, it would be clear that it had nothing to do with ideology, but was only a question of law and order.

* * *

HE COLLECTS PETROGLYPHS

I don't know why people use outlandish words when simple ones would do.

When I read that a teacher in Frunze, capital of Kirghizia, had over 5,000 petroglyphs, I wondered at first what on earth they were. Put it down to my ignorance.

They are actually rock-carvings, and Yury Golendukhin, the teacher in question, is mad about them.

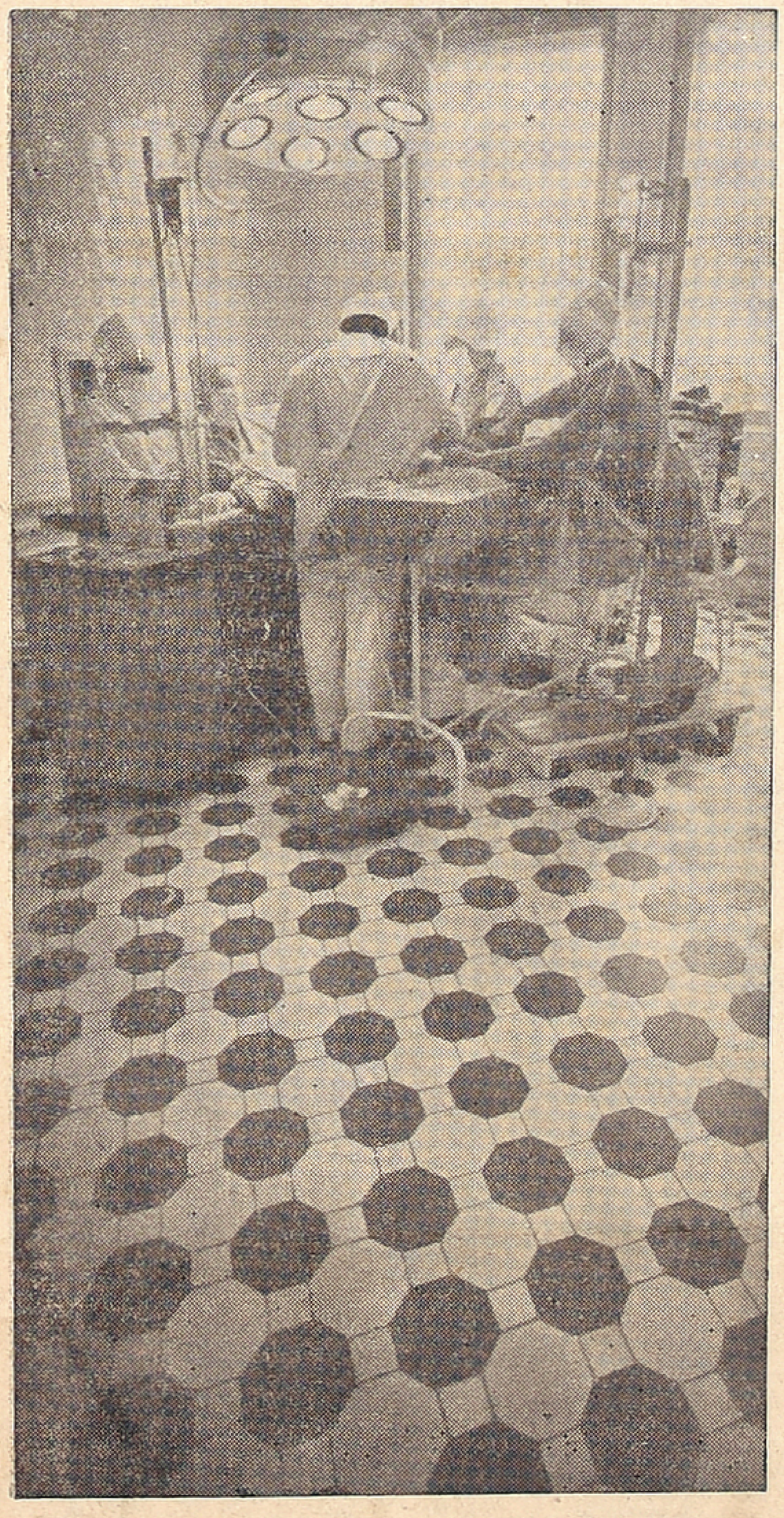
For the past quarter of a century and more he has been spending his summer holidays searching for new ones and making beautiful copies of them. His finds are scientifically important.

They prove, for instance, that primitive tribes living in the Ferghana Valley 2 000 years BC already knew quite a lot about mathematics and astronomy.

This year he discovered the remains of an ancient temple in Saimaly-Tash, at the eastern end of the Ferghana Range.

There was a whole gallery of rock drawings there, representing hunting, farming and cattle-breeding scenes.

There is now an exhibition of Golendukhin's drawings in Frunze.

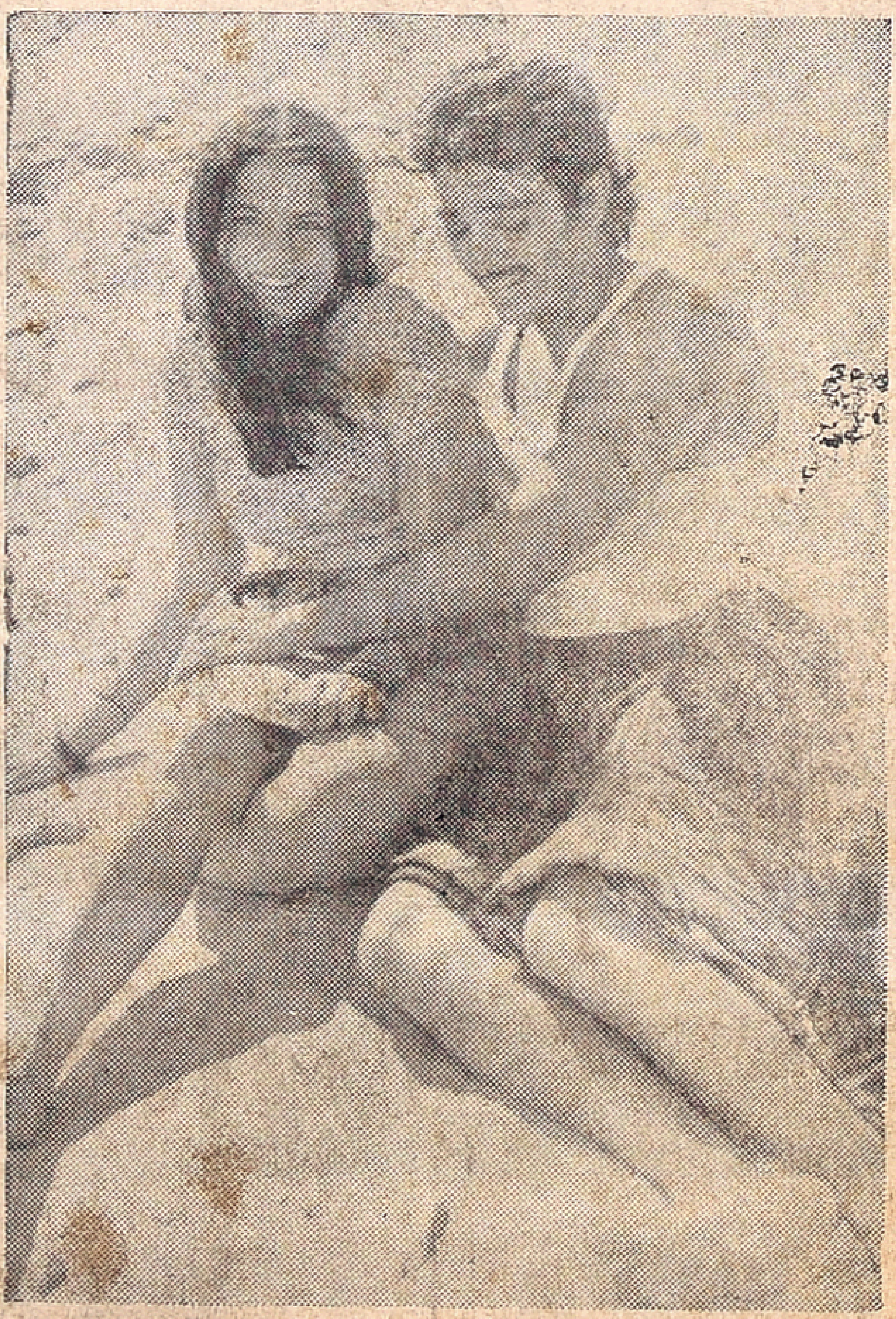


An operation is on...

The beaming smiles of the convalescent children are the highest reward for the nurses' hard work.

Hamburg (DaD) – For the second time round the Dertmund computer of the university admissions bureau will handle entry applications for a number of evercrowded subjects at universities in the Federal Republic of Germany. Applications for this summer semester were due in by 14 January. Last semester only one applicant in five was awarded a place in medicine, dentistry and biochemistry. Only one in nine would-be pharmaceutical student, here seen in a university laboratory, was taken on. Architecture, biology, chemistry, psychology, veterinary medicine and in west Berlin even teacher training colleges have admission ceiling.

Jayalalitha, who completed acting in hundred films as leading lady last year, is a good danseuse and a good singer also. She is learning classical carnatic music under Kunnakudi Vaidyanathan. Columbia recorded few songs on Lord Muruga rendered by her recently. They were composed by Poovai Senguttuvan, Thavaselvan and Nanjil Ambi.



Kamalahasan, as the sculptor, and Rita Bhadhuri, as his lover Parvathi, have given an excellent performance in "Kanyakumari", Malayalam film in colour. Sethumadhavan has directed adminarably.

Printed and published for the Free India Private Ltd., by G. Rangarajan at the Free India Press, 77, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras-600002. Editor D. Krishnamurthy.